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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Grimma

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 2 to 5 April 1952

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 22 April 1952

REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. On 5 April 1952, the Strassburg Kaserne on Leipzigerstrasse, Grimma (N 52/E 40) quartered about 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 2 April, 74 tanks, mostly T-34s, and about 20 tanks of a heavier caliber were noticed in the billeting area. About 50 to 60 uniformed women were engaged in rifle drill in the barracks yard. About 50 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, including a drummer, practiced with small arms.
2. On 2 April, the Elsnor Kaserne on Franz Mehringstrasse was occupied by a signal unit. * The majority of the unit, equipped with 40-man tents, had departed for a troop training grounds at the end of February. No training activity was noticed in the billeting area of the Elsnor Kaserne. **
3. At the beginning of April, a headquarters was housed in the Nagema on Franz Mehring Strasse. According to a resident who made a business call there, a division headquarters is stationed in the Nagema. Soviet soldiers stated that there were 3,000 to 4,000 troops in the Grimma military post, including the division headquarters and the town komendatura. *

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* ☐ Comment. According to the present and two other sources, Soviet units in Grimma some of whom are unidentified, are believed to include the Hq 8th Gds Rec. Div in the Nagema, a former barracks installation south of the Elsnor Kaserne in the Franz Mehring Strasse; an unidentified signal battalion in the Elsnor Kaserne, also referred to as Artillerie Kaserne, at the intersection of Franz Mehring Strasse and Stalin Strasse; an unidentified penal unit in the Elsnor Kaserne; the 1st Gds Tank Regt in the Strassburg Kaserne on Stalin Strasse; the 133d Gds Engr Bn presumably in the Strassburg Kaserne; and the komendatura in five villas on Stalin Strasse, corner of Friedrich Engels Strasse. However, these units would have an aggregate number of 2,000 men at the highest. No indications regarding the presence there of further units, including air force units, are available. ☐

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** ☐ Comment. The unidentified signal battalion has probably moved to Thuringia to take part in a command-post exercise rather than to a troop training grounds. Three rail shipments were reported to have gone from Kuchlhausen to Grimma and vice versa on 20 March 1952. ☐

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CLASSIFICATION

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No Change in Class. ☐☐ DeclassifiedClass. Changed To: TS S ☒ 25X1

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